Effect of Poisonous Chemicals Residues on the Ground Water Sources

2017. SHRI VIREN J. SHAH:
SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a report published in the Indian Express (Bombay) dated 19th February, 1992; to the effect that the continuous use of poisonous chemicals, viz., DDT and BHC residues have affected the ground water sources through seepage into the soil;

(b) if so, whether it is a fact that as a result thereof, rivers, streams and ponds have become highly polluted making the drinking water harmful;

(c) whether the Yamuna water in Delhi contains high DDT residues;

(d) if so, what are the details in this regard; and

(e) what remedial steps Government have so far taken to check the use of poisonous chemicals in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) and (b) Yes Sir. According to a survey conducted in July, 1989 in an area of intense agricultural activity in the fields and banks of river Ganga at Farrukhabad, the presence of DDT and BHC in ground water, soil and river samples was found beyond permissible limits.

(c) and (d) The monthly sampling of Yamuna water done in 1989 and 1990 as a part of a joint study by Central pollution Control Board, Delhi and Industrial Toxicology Research Centre, Lucknow has revealed that DDT levels in the samples were within the prescribed limits of World Health Organisation.

(e) The following steps have been taken by the Government to check the use of pesticides harmful to health and the environment:—

(i) Only the pesticides which are safe for human beings, animals and the environment, are allowed to be registered for use in the country.

(ii) Farmers are trained in safe and judicious use of pesticides.

(iii) Many highly toxic pesticides have been banned or refused registration.

(iv) Intergrated Pest Management approach is being encouraged to reduce/minimise the over-dependence on pesticides.

Seminar on Pollution Control in River Cities

2018. DR. RATNAKAR PANDEY: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT & FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a seminar on 'Pollution Control in the river cities of India—a case study of Ganga at Varanasi' which was held at Varanasi in January, 1992, stressed the urgent needs to specify Government's plans to follow-up the activities under the Ganga Action Plan; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of Government thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) and (b) A seminar on 'Pollution Control in the river cities of India—a case study of Ganga at Varanasi' was held between 14-17 January, 1992. The recommendations of the seminar include:

(i) The urgent need to follow up the activities undertaken in Phase-I of the Ganga Action Plan (GAP).

(ii) Early commissioning of sewage treatment plants at Dinapur and increase of treatment plant capacity at Banaras Hindu University, Diesel Locomotive Works and Dinapur.

(iii) Construction of a bypass interceptor or other appropriate facilities needed to eliminate overflows into the river.

(iv) Compilation of pumping rates, pumping volumes and maintenance record of the existing pumping stations on a monthly basis.

(v) Proper attention to be paid for operation & maintenance of the facilities set up under GAP.

The Government of Uttar Pradesh,